

BIG POLICE VICE TRIALS AT HAND

Five Lieutenants, Sergeant and 3 Patrolmen at Headquarters Friday.

CURRAN ASKS \$25,000

Minority Objects, So Investigator's Request Goes to Committee.

WHITMAN GETS FACTS

Confessions Following Mary Goode's Story Involve New Graft Collectors.

Nine policemen will be brought up for trial Friday, according to information given out at headquarters yesterday in connection with the stories told by Mrs. Mary Goode and others regarding the vice graft in New York. Capt. Corcoran and Zimmerman already have been tried and decisions in their cases still are pending. They add two more to the total, making it eleven in all.

This total number of eleven men is made up of the two captains, five lieutenants, one sergeant and three patrolmen. The captains and the lieutenants are charged with having allowed patrolmen to be assigned to special detail consecutively and with having permitted the assignment of a patrolman to be omitted from the roster. These cases are all in the West 100th street station.

The sergeant is Daniel W. O'Grady of Inspector Connelley's staff in the First Inspection District. The three patrolmen are Alexander C. Inspector Dwyer's staff and Seely and Buckland of the West 100th street station. O'Grady, Seely and Weidenker were suspended on Monday.

Commissioner Waldo had a long talk with Inspector Dwyer yesterday in connection with the charges against those of the officers who are in Inspector Dwyer's precinct. The inspector announced when he came back from his vacation on learning of the revelations of Mary Goode that he was going to prosecute an investigation of his own.

The Curran committee asked an additional appropriation of \$25,000 of the Board of Aldermen yesterday afternoon. The request met with opposition, although Alderman Dowling of the minority suggested that his side was willing to let the appropriation go through unopposed if the amount was reduced to \$15,000. This would permit the appropriation to be made without reference to a committee. The fusion members insisted upon the full amount.

Alderman Dowling expressed the opinion that so far the committee's expenses had figured out \$250 an hour for its actual sitting time, and he thought that if more money than the minority's suggestion of \$15,000 was appropriated the committee ought to hold more and longer sessions. The matter finally was referred to the Committee on Finance, of which Alderman Curran, chairman of the investigating committee, is the chairman.

Fusion members said later that if the \$25,000 appropriation were passed it would be sufficient to clean up the work of the committee, while if the minority suggestion won out it would only mean coming back to ask for more money. The majority is of the opinion that the investigation has been conducted economically, and it is pointed out that each hour of the public session necessitates many hours work by the committee's investigators in preparation.

Two keepers of questionable resorts were examined by District Attorney Whitman in person yesterday and several other persons of the same category were examined by representatives of the District Attorney's office in other parts of town. The witnesses were not adverse to telling of alleged protection payments, but the prosecutor found the same trouble that he has encountered before—that the further he goes the wider becomes the inquiry.

Instead of additional testimony strengthening the evidence against the same collectors the work of the District Attorney office so far has served rather to produce the names of additional collectors. This outcome naturally delays the presentation of the matter to the Grand Jury, but to this extent in discouraging to those who are trying to get something tangible out of the mass of testimony obtained. But those who have been over the matter now in the possession of the District Attorney say the delay will be productive of more results than any quickly concluded investigation possibly could be, since the scope is being widened by evidence of delay, and any conclusion now must be based upon the broader consideration of the subject.

What the District Attorney is looking for at present is corroboration of certain details, so that these may be put before the Grand Jury. Indictments obtained and encouragement given to those who are hesitating before coming forward and telling what they admittedly know. It is believed that within a few days the new testimony will center upon certain persons against whom definite action may be instituted. It is known District Attorney Whitman is far from discouraged and that Justice Goff shares the feelings of the District Attorney.

Within the past two or three days information has come to the hands of the District Attorney which cannot be presented to the Grand Jury in its present form, but which is already in shape to receive the attention of the Aldermanic committee. More of this testimony is promised to-day and to-morrow, and it is believed the Curran committee will be able to furnish some interesting details of the vice graft situation in New York at its next two or three sessions. The understanding is that Raymond B. Fossdick, former Commissioner of Accounts, will be the chief witness examined at the hearing to-day. If there is time left some of the witnesses corralled by the District Attorney may be heard to-day.

The name of Jack Sullivan, now in the Tombs on an indictment found in connection with the murder of Herman Rosenthal, has been brought into

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The present inquiry, some of the investigators believe the former newsmen can give valuable information regarding this phase of police business if he comes to and the suggestion has been made that he might relieve his present predicament by such testimony. No information was forthcoming from the Criminal Courts Building regarding Sullivan yesterday. From his cell in the Tombs Sullivan disclaimed all knowledge of anything which would be of assistance to the investigators.

From one of the men who have spent much time in investigating the vice conditions of the city an idea was obtained yesterday of the difficulties which beset those who try to get to the bottom of the evil. He mentioned an instance of alleged grafting brought to his attention to which he devoted his energies for some time. The woman keeper of a questionable resort visited the back room of a saloon and handed an envelope to one of the barkeepers. The latter turned it over to a man who seemed to be in the place by chance. The latter, after an interval, passed it through a partly open door to another man, and it was alleged that eventually it reached the hands of a policeman. With this puzzling confusion of middlemen the investigator lost the trail.

In spite of the lack of corroboration hoped for and not furnished by these examinations within the past day or two, it is said that not one has failed to give the names and dates and other specific details of certain alleged payments, and all have seemed to take it as a matter of course that they had to pay for protection in order to do business. The attitude displayed by Mary Goode on the witness stand, that the present conditions must be known generally to her hearers as a matter of course, has been displayed also by all the other witnesses.

The problem which the investigators are trying to solve is where the bulk of the money told of by the witnesses goes. One of the investigators reduced Mary Goode's estimate of the women in the city who live by illicit means from 25,000 to 2,000, and expressed the opinion that \$500 was the highest amount paid by any resort monthly, rather than the \$1,000 stated by Mary Goode. The monthly figures with these deductions totalled a sum which this same investigator said made the policemen and middlemen so far mentioned in the testimony as receiving this and that amount veritable "pikers."

Deputy Commissioner Walsh, who with Chief Inspector Schmittberger is conducting the investigation ordered by Commissioner Waldo, had Sol Wolf, mentioned by Mrs. Goode, before him yesterday afternoon. Nothing was made public as to the result of the examination. Wolf will be one of the witnesses called at the trial of the policemen on Friday, it was said yesterday. Others who may be called include Manny Maas, beer botler, and named by Mrs. Goode as a collector; Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Strauss and Mrs. Goode. These will be called only against the policemen uptown. O'Grady will be confronted with East Side witnesses, whose story was detailed yesterday morning.

WALDO REPLIES TO CRITICS.

Police Commissioner Says No One Has Got Protection.

In a speech at a banquet of the Municipal Club of Brooklyn at the Hamilton Hotel last night Police Commissioner Waldo refuted by Chief Magistrate Otto Kemper as "the best worked, worst criticised and the least appreciated public official in the country," defended his work and his department.

"I do not believe," he said, "you can gather 11,000 men who represent a higher type of American citizenship than you have in the Police Department."

Answering criticism of the appointment of "murderers, thieves and gangsters," he said that his "murderer" happened to have once been a notman whose car killed a police officer. The notman was acquitted, and he saw no reason why he should not be a policeman.

As to the allegation, that he had admitted times he said that of the forty-four cases in which he had received fines thirty-six were brought before him through an ambiguous order.

He said that 56 per cent. of the stolen property is recovered nowadays and that his plan of having vice squads to check each other has been successful in spite of the Becker case. He admitted that the vice problem is difficult to handle, but said it hasn't been shown that any less gambling and less open prostitution than ever before in the city.

CURRAN MEN WATCH POLICE.

Note Every Incident at West 47th Street Station.

Two men, appearing from their credentials a letter from Commissioner Waldo to be Mr. Wilson and Mr. Sands, working for the Curran Aldermanic committee, stood by the desk in the West 47th street station house from 4 P. M. yesterday until midnight and recorded on their pads everything that occurred. They scarcely had begun work when Capt. Matthew McKoon of the West 100th street station arrived to take command of the precinct while Capt. Edward Walsh had the customary eight hours leave.

Shortly after Capt. McKoon arrived he caused a typewritten order to be posted in the rear room. The investigator's credentials did not admit them to this room. The order was:

"When any officer appears at the desk he is to stand at attention and assume the position of a soldier or be subject to a complaint."

The first two arrests to be noted by the investigators were those of women charged with intoxication. At 7:30 a man was brought in from Jack's charged with failing to pay his check.

At 8:30 o'clock Cotton White, an actor, of 231 West Forty-eighth street, asked about his wife, who he said, had taken an overdose of strychnine on a dare.

PINKERTON GIVES PLAN TO REORGANIZE POLICE

New Ideas as to Selecting Board of Five Commissioners.

FUND FOR GRAFT HUNT

Thinks Force Is Now Better Than That of Any Other Big City in the World.

Allan Pinkerton a few days since in talking with heads of some of the larger insurance companies writing burglary insurance in this city made the statement that in his opinion the large amount of crime that has recently been committed in New York City is largely due to the exaggerated reports that are being published throughout the country of conditions here and that the New York papers especially, being read by criminal classes, help in bringing thousands of undesirables into this city with the idea that New York is as open as a frontier town, and thereby forcing a tremendous task on the Police Department.

Mr. Pinkerton, from his knowledge of police conditions in the various cities of this country and Europe, expressed the conviction that the New York department is the best organized of its kind in the world and is to-day doing the most effective police work.

Also Mr. Pinkerton said, from talking with police officials, travelling men and others in position to know, that the percentage of gambling and disorderly houses is not as great here as in any other city approaching its size and that New York City is cleaner in this respect than many cities one-third its size.

Of course there always will be instances of dishonesty and grafting in the department, but Mr. Pinkerton believes this is no more extensive than it naturally would be among any such force of 12,000 men, and the force would not be any better if made up of bankers, merchants, doctors, lawyers or ministers. Individual cases of grafting always will exist, but no sane person can even conceive that the Police Department as a whole approved or had cognizance of such an insane murder scheme as that for which Lieut. Becker was convicted, and it is Mr. Pinkerton's belief that much good will come to the department from the disclosures as a result of the so-called Becker-Rosenthal case. He believes that it is practically impossible for any head to continue good work under the unjust criticisms that are being heaped upon the Commissioner and the Police Department of New York City at the present time.

Replying to a question as to how the New York police could be relieved from politics and grafting he reduced to a minimum Mr. Pinkerton said that one plan might be to create by legislation a board of five Police Commissioners, each commissioner to give his entire time to police work, to have a salary of not less than \$15,000 a year, and to serve five years, one to be appointed each year, the senior member to be chairman of the board. The Commissioners to be chosen as follows:

One by the Chamber of Commerce. One by the Bar Association. One by a federation of churches. One by the Board of City Aldermen. One to be elected by members of the New York Police Department, having rank of captain or higher.

This would make a board the majority of whom at all times would have full knowledge of police affairs. The board to appoint a chief of police, who shall be responsible to the board for the conduct of the Police Department in all its branches in all boroughs.

Also to appoint an assistant chief of police, who shall be head of the detective department of the five boroughs. Each borough to have a superintendent of police, responsible to the chief of police for all police work of the boroughs.

Also an assistant superintendent of police in each borough, to be responsible for the detective work in each borough. Also to be appointed for each borough necessary inspectors and captains. Each captain to be held absolutely responsible for law and order in his precinct and the honesty and efficiency of those under him, as well as to know that every building in his precinct is used only for legitimate purposes.

There should be no such thing as transfers in any part of the force, but inefficiency should result in demotion and reduction in pay; dishonesty and neglect to result in dismissal.

The commission to be supplied with a special fund of \$50,000 or more, to be applied at its discretion, either by special service within the force or by private service outside of the force, toward securing evidence of irregularities existing within the force. This fund should be a tremendous power toward forcing, especially the captain, to keep up the honesty and efficiency of the force under him in maintaining a clean precinct.

There should also be some provision for the board on stated dates, maybe two or three times a month, to give private audiences to citizens with complaints, information or evidence on police matters.

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Inventor Gave Fortune and Home to Mine Promoter.

The calm of the winner trial was broken yesterday in the Federal District Court when John J. Meyers, codefendant with Archie L. Wisner on the charge of using the mails to defraud in their mining schemes, remarked of a witness that he was a bad egg. Assistant District Attorney Arnold was on his feet in an instant with an indignant objection and was sustained by Judge Mack.

When court adjourned for lunch Assistant District Attorney Arnold, who had been heard to remark that he would punch the defendant's lawyer, Schlesinger, made toward him, declaring that he had been insulted. Attorney Schlesinger retorted in kind, but the blows which were threatened were not struck. Peace was restored and in the afternoon session all was harmonious.

C. V. Johnson, an inventor of Rockford, Ill., testified to an experience with the Wisner-Meyers enterprises, equalled by no previous witness. His total possessions were \$12,000 in bank and a house in San Francisco worth \$5,000, he said. Meyers persuaded him to invest all but \$3,000 of his money in a proposition which gave him \$25 in dividends. A short time after, on Meyers's assurance that things were booming, he parted with the remainder of his cash.

More glowing reports on a third visit from Meyers brought the regret from Johnson that he had nothing left but a house. Meyers agreed to give him \$3,000 on the house and \$5,000 in mining stock. It took only a fourth call from the promoter to cause the money payment for the house to change hands, and Johnson found himself in possession of nothing but mining stock.

Johnson, once more. This time he learned that Johnson was without means to live. He cautioned the penniless man against selling his stock because things were about to look up. He found that it would cost Johnson \$1 a day to live, and for three months he furnished him with this sum.

The case is continued to-day.

CHARGES AGAINST QUEENS PROSECUTOR THROWN OUT

Governor Dix Comments on "Information and Belief" of Non-Resident.

Gov. Dix dismissed yesterday the charges filed against District Attorney Matthew J. Smith of Queens by Samuel Piser, who described himself as "a citizen and resident of the State of New York." The Governor said that many of them were trivial even if they could be proved, and that charges made in such a way ought not to be entertained.

Mr. Piser died on October 19 last and did not give his residence, place of business or occupation. He made twelve different charges without giving the sources of his information or the grounds of his belief.

Mr. Smith filed affidavits saying that every separate charge was untrue. He was charged with not having representatives of his office at coroners' cases or in the Magistrate's courts, and he had affidavits from Coroners and Magistrates saying that they always had full cooperation from the District Attorney's office. Piser alleged that Mr. Smith used his office for political purposes, and the District Attorney said it was true that in September of this year he was chairman of a committee of citizens associated in relation to the primary election, but he said that he did not use his office for political purposes. Members of a Queens Grand Jury, together with two Coroners, four Magistrates and various supervisors of the District Attorney's office, all filed affidavits supporting Mr. Smith.

In his decision the Governor says: Attempts to secure removal from public office by the Governor through charges based on information and belief without any statement of the sources of information and the grounds of such belief preferred by person who does not appear to be even a resident of the county where the accused official resides ought not to be encouraged. Here would stand and belief, especially when availed by one outside the constituency of the accused official, constitutes no such disclosure as the Governor and the public are entitled to receive before exacting from an accused official the expense and humiliation of a trial on such charges.

Mr. Smith said yesterday that he had some difficulty in discovering where Mr. Piser, his accuser, had his office, where he lived and what he did. He said he found that Mr. Piser lived at 75 West Ninety-second street, Manhattan, and had no Queens residence.

ALDERMEN KILL MOVIES LAW WITH AMENDMENT

Pass Folks Ordinance, but Put Censorship Up to Board of Education.

HOPE FOR MAYOR'S VETO

Fusion Members Believe Dowling Provision Will Be Found to Be Illegal.

Censorship of moving picture films by the Board of Education was provided for yesterday by the Board of Aldermen in an amendment which was injected into the ordinance that Ralph Folks has been trying to get before the people for many months. There is no doubt among many fusion members that the provision is illegal. It leaves duties on the Board of Education outside those set down for it in the charter.

The charge was openly made by many fusion members that Frank Dowling, Tammany leader, had proposed the amendment in the hope of nullifying the Folks ordinance. Mr. Folks accepted it, however, in the expectation that the Mayor would be able to veto the amendment and leave the ordinance in its original form. Other city officers felt that under the charter the Mayor could not kill the amendment and approve the rest, and so the whole thing would fall through.

The Folks ordinance provides generally for better fire exits and areas on the sides of the buildings into which audiences can go in case of fire. The provisions which had the support of many civic organizations were those intended to protect children and women from the advances of men. These provisions abolish cheap vaudeville and place the character of the performances under the supervision of the Mayor's Bureau of Licenses. The seating capacity is increased from 500 to 600 persons.

Aldermen Morrison of Brooklyn brought in an amendment which had the support of Canon Chase and other clergymen providing for the censorship of films by the Bureau of Licenses. Alderman Dowling picked up the essence of this amendment and offered another leaving the censorship to the Board of Education.

Alderman Folks finally agreed to accept this amendment, thinking that under section 40 of the Charter the Mayor would be able to veto it. Mr. Folks held that the Board of Aldermen could not place upon the Board of Education duties outside of its present functions and that the Mayor would agree with him. Section 40 of the Charter provides that the Mayor can veto ordinances of the Board of Aldermen in part, provided the part disapproved deals with a distinct subject.

Borough President McAneny said the board seemed to be aware that it was acting a farce, and that view of this he was willing to run with the rest and vote for the amendment. His idea was that the amendment made the whole ordinance illegal because it imposed additional duties on the Board of Education.

The ordinance with its amendment passed with fifty-eight Aldermen voting for it. John White was the only man who voted against it and one Alderman failed to vote.

Alderman White, who is in the moving picture business himself, made a long speech, in which he charged that a Chicago moving picture concern was behind the agitation providing for larger theatres.

"Are you going to pull down the business by doing what the film trust wants?" he asked.

He added that \$150,000,000 was invested in the business in New York. He said the ordinance had been kept out of sight for many months through a "gentlemen's agreement" and that it was brought forward now only through an accused official the expense and humiliation of a trial on such charges.

Mr. Smith said yesterday that he had some difficulty in discovering where Mr. Piser, his accuser, had his office, where he lived and what he did. He said he found that Mr. Piser lived at 75 West Ninety-second street, Manhattan, and had no Queens residence.

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GOV. DIX'S O'RYAN ORDER

TO BE PASSED ON IN COURT

Attorney-General Lets Deposed

National Guard Officer Begin Proceedings.

ALBANY, Dec. 17.—Attorney-General Cathoery decided to-day to permit Major-General John F. O'Ryan to begin court proceedings to pass upon the legality of the order issued through Adj.-Gen. Verbeck under authority of Gov. Dix disbarring the divisional organization of the National Guard as it existed on October 25.

After Major-General O'Ryan had been deposed he sought through his attorneys, Morgan J. O'Brien and Henry A. Gilderleeve, permission from the Attorney-General to start an action to test the legality of the order designating Adj.-Gen. Verbeck as Chief of Staff and the order doing away with the divisional organization of the guard. In deciding to permit Major-General O'Ryan to begin court proceedings Attorney-General Carmody wrote an opinion, in which he said:

I do not undertake to pass upon the merits of the application, nor is it proper for me to do so. It is only necessary for me to determine that there are questions presented by the petition which should be passed upon by the court.

This case has attracted so much public attention and has especially aroused such interest in officers and members of the National Guard that I believe I should not arbitrarily decline to have the matter submitted to the court. I therefore grant the petition, limiting the questions presented, however, to two, namely:

1. Is the order of October 25, 1912, which in effect disbanded the divisional organization a valid order?

2. Have the courts jurisdiction to pass upon the validity of this order?

I do not believe that there is any merit in that part of the petition which attacks the order of October 3, 1912, creating a Chief of Staff and assigning the Adjutant-General to the duties of that office, and therefore I dismiss the petition so far as it asks for a review of the validity of that order.

Dow, on Bail, Arrested on New Charge.

BOSTON, Dec. 17.—Stephen R. Dow, a former member of the Stock Exchange who was indicted for the larceny of \$140,000 from several copper mining companies of which he was president and was out on \$25,000 bail, was arrested to-day on a second indictment charging larceny from Alice W. Jennings, executrix of the estate of Charles Jennings. He was held in \$5,000 additional bail, which he gave in cash from a large roll of bills.

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